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UNH Media Relations

Great Bay Coast Watch To Hold 16th Annual Spring Meeting: "The Story Of An Urban Stream"

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March 6, 2006

DURHAM, N.H. -- The Great Bay Coast Watch (GBCW) will host its annual public meeting Thursday, March 16, from 7-8:30 p.m. at the Urban Forestry Center in Portsmouth. Anyone interested in learning more about the waters of coastal and estuarine New Hampshire or how to become involved with the Watch is invited to attend.

GBCW staff will share their monitoring results from the 2005 sampling season and release their 2005 annual report. Guest speaker Sherry Godlewski will discuss her work as watershed coordinator for the Hodgson Brook Watershed Restoration Project, which has partnered with GBCW to share monitoring data. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency considers non-point source pollution to be the largest threat to the nation's water quality. The Hodgson Brook Watershed Restoration Plan demonstrates how collaboration between various private and public groups can maximize resources to deal with non-point source pollution of an urban stream.

Sponsored by UNH Cooperative Extension and NH Sea Grant, Great Bay Coast Watch is a volunteer effort dedicated to protecting the long-term health of New Hampshire's coastal waters and estuarine systems through monitoring and education projects. Founded in 1989, the Watch now monitors water quality at 21 sites and phytoplankton levels at six sites along the NH coast. For more information about volunteer and funding opportunities, please attend the annual meeting or contact Great Bay Coast Watch coordinator Ann Reid at 603-749-1565 or ann.reid@unh.edu.